



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **TAX BILLS ARE MAILED OUT, BUT THOUSANDS COME BACK** ***Those Who Haven't Received Their Property Tax Bill Are Urged to Request a Copy***

Bart Hartman, Treasurer-Tax Collector, stated today that of the more than 870,000 property tax bills and statements mailed for properties in San Diego County, nearly 10,000 bills and 5,000 statements have been returned by the Post Office as undeliverable. The mailing of the annual property tax bills for this year began on Sept. 18, and was completed on Oct. 15. These bills represent the largest single source of revenue to local governments, including schools, cities, fire districts, and the County.

Hartman reminds taxpayers that, according to state law, the failure to receive a tax bill is not sufficient reason to forgive penalties. "I want to ensure that everyone receives their bills in a timely manner so they can plan this expense and avoid any costly penalties," said Hartman. "Anyone who has not received their property tax bill for 2001-2002 should call our office at (619) 236-2424 to obtain a copy."

Hartman also reminds taxpayers who have recently refinanced or paid off their home loans that they may be responsible for paying the bill themselves. "Each year we are contacted by homeowners who overlooked their bill after paying off a loan that had an impound account."

Taxpayers can conduct business with the Treasurer-Tax Collector at any of four branch offices located at 334 Via Vera Cruz, #150, behind "Restaurant Row" in San Marcos; 200 South Magnolia in El Cajon; 344 F Street, Suite 200, in Chula Vista; and in Kearny Mesa, 5473 Kearny Villa Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.

Additional information may be obtained from the Treasurer-Tax Collector's main office located in the County Administration Center at 1600 Pacific Highway in downtown San Diego, or by calling (619) 531-5225.

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